ROYAL COMMISSION ON CONGESTION IN IRELAND.

FOURTH REPORT

OF

THE COMMISSIONERS.

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON CONGESTION IN IRELAND.

WARRANT APPOINTING THE COMMISSION.

EDWARD *R. & I.*

EDWARD THE SEVENTH, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas King, Defender of the Faith, to

Our right trusty and right well-beloved Cousin and Councillor WILLIAM HUMBLE, EARL OF DUDLEY, Knight Grand Cross of Our Royal Victorian Order;

Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor SIR ANTONY PATRICK MACDONNELL, Knight Grand Commander of Our Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, Knight Commander of Our Royal Victorian Order, Under Secretary to Our Lieutenant-General and General Governor of that part of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland called Ireland;

Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor SIR JOHN CHARLES READY COLOMB, Knight Commander of Our Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George;

Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor SIR FRANCIS MOWATT, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Companion of Our Imperial Service Order; and

Our trusty and well-beloved:—

The Most Reverend PATRICK O'DONNELL, Doctor in Divinity;

JOHN ANNAN BRYCE, Esquire;

WALTER INCH KAVANAGH, Esquire;

CONOR O'KELLY, Esquire; and

ANGUS SUTHERLAND, Esquire; Chairman of the Fishery Board for Scotland;

GREETING!

Whereas We have deemed it expedient that a Commission should forthwith issue to inquire into and report upon the operation of the Acts dealing with Congestion in Ireland, the working of the Congested Districts Board, and the Land Commission under these Acts, and the relations of the Board with the Land Commission and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction; what areas (if any) outside the districts now scheduled as congested, require to be dealt with as congested; what lands are most conveniently situated for the relief of congestion; what changes in law or administration are needed for dealing with the problem of congestion as a whole, for facilitating the migration of the surplus population from congested areas to other lands, and generally for bettering the condition of the people inhabiting congested areas.

Now know ye that We, reposing great trust and confidence in your knowledge and ability, have nominated, constituted and appointed, and do by these Presents nominate, constitute and appoint you the said William Humble, Earl of Dudley (Chairman); Sir Antony Patrick MacDonnell; Sir John Charles Ready Colomb; Sir Francis Mowatt; Patrick O'Donnell; John Annan Bryce; Walter Inch Kavanagh; Conor O'Kelly; and Angus Sutherland to be Our Commissioners for the purposes of the said Inquiry.

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And for the better effecting the purposes of this Our Commission, We do by these Presents give and grant unto you, or any three or more of you, full power to call before you such persons as you shall judge likely to afford you any information upon the subject of this Our Commission; and also to call for, have access to, and examine all such books, documents, registers and records as may afford you the fullest information on the subject; and to inquire of and concerning the premises by all other lawful ways and means whatsoever.

And We do by these Presents authorize and empower you, or any three or more of you, to visit and personally inspect such places as you may deem it expedient so to inspect for the more effectual carrying out of the purposes aforesaid, and to employ such persons as you may think fit to assist you in conducting any inquiry which you may hold.

And We do by these Presents will and ordain that this Our Commission shall continue in full force and virtue, and that you, Our said Commissioners, or any three or more of you, may from time to time proceed in the execution thereof and of every matter and thing therein contained, although the same be not continued from time to time by adjournment.

And We do further ordain that you, or any three or more of you, have liberty to report your proceedings under this Our Commission from time to time, if you shall judge it expedient so to do

And Our further will and pleasure is that you do, with as little delay as possible, report to Us under your hands and seals, or under the hands and seals of any three or more of you, your opinion upon the matters herein submitted for your consideration.

Given at Our Court at *St James's*, the 20th day of July, 1906, in the sixth year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command.

H. J. GLADSTONE

Appointment of Secretary.

DUBLIN CASTLE,
July 24, 1906.

WALTER ERNEST EVERARD CALLAN, Esquire, B.L., The Castle, Dublin, has been appointed to be Secretary of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into and report upon the operation of the Acts dealing with Congestion in Ireland.

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON CONGESTION IN IRELAND.

FOURTH REPORT.

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

We, the Commissioners appointed by Your Majesty on the 20th July, 1906,

> "To inquire into and report upon the operation of the Acts dealing with Congestion in Ireland, the working of the Congested Districts Board, and the Land Commission under these Acts, and the relations of the Board with the Land Commission and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction; what areas (if any) outside the districts now scheduled as congested, require to be dealt with as congested; what lands are most conveniently situated for the relief of congestion; what changes in law or administration are needed for dealing with the problem of congestion as a whole, for facilitating the migration of the surplus population from congested areas to other lands, and generally for bettering the condition of the people inhabiting congested areas,"

Availing ourselves of Your Majesty's permission to report our proceedings from time to time, desire to submit to Your Majesty, as an Appendix to this fourth preliminary report, minutes of the evidence taken in London during the month of February, and statements and returns in writing that have been furnished to us in connection therewith.

We think that the immediate publication of these documents is desirable.

All of which we humbly submit for Your Majesty's most gracious consideration.

DUDLEY, *Chairman.*
A. P. MACDONNELL.
JOHN C. R. COLOMB.
FRANCIS MOWATT.
✠ PATRICK O'DONNELL.
JOHN ANNAN BRYCE.
WALTER KAVANAGH.
CONOR O'KELLY.
ANGUS SUTHERLAND.

WALTER CALLAN,
Secretary.

LONDON. Dated this 22nd day of April, 1907.

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